

**Case 3186*****Squalus edwardsii* (currently *Haploblepharus edwardsii*; Chondrichthyes, Carcharhiniformes): proposed attribution to Schinz (1822) and conservation of *edwardsii* as the correct original spelling of the specific name**

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this application is to attribute the specific name of the puffadder shyshark *Haploblepharus edwardsii* to Schinz (1822) as the author and to conserve *edwardsii* as the correct original spelling; Schinz used the spelling *edwardsii*.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Chondrichthyes; SCYLORHINIDAE; *Haploblepharus*; *Haploblepharus edwardsii*; puffadder shyshark.

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1. Edwards (1764, pp. 164–170, pl. 289) described and figured three juvenile sharks from the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, under the names the Greater Cat–Fish / le Chat de Mer Major, which he believed to be conspecific with the *Catulus major vulgaris* of Willughby (1686) from the North Sea. The figures were reproduced in a translation of this book by Houttuyn (1776, p. 30, pl. 89) as ‘den grooten Zee–hond of Bonte Haay’. According to Edwards ‘the upper two figures are supposed to give the size of the fish, when it is only a few days old; the lower figures are of their bigness at the time of their exclusion from the egg’. These three figured specimens, whose whereabouts are unknown, must be considered syntypes of the species. Compagno (1984, p. 332) was mistaken when in his account of *Haploblepharus edwardsii* he referred to a ‘holotype?’ even if the name is taken from Voigt (1832; see below). Eschmeyer (1998, vol. 1, p. 511) cited as syntypes ‘?RMNH 4161–64 (2,1,1,1)’. However, RMNH 4161–RMNH 4164 are the Leiden registration numbers of the syntypes of *Scillium pictum* Müller & Henle, 1839 (= *Haploblepharus pictus*).

2. Cuvier (1817, p. 124; 1829, p. 386) recognised that the specimens described and figured by Edwards (1764) belonged to a valid species that he referred to as ‘sq. d’Edwards’, but as a vernacular this is not an available name. The name was first made available by Schinz (1822, p. 214) in a translation of Cuvier (1817). In a footnote he stated: ‘*Squal. Edwardsii*. Edw. 289 wahrscheinlich derselbe mit . . .’. Unfortunately Schinz used the spelling ‘*edwardsii*’ instead of ‘*edwardsii*’. All subsequent authors have overlooked this publication. Voigt (1832, p. 504) translated Cuvier’s (1829) edition of the *Règne Animal* and mentioned in a footnote to the sharks ‘mit schwarzen und weitzen Flecken; *Sq. Edwardsii* Edw. 289, unter dem falschen Namen Greater Cat–Fish, welcher die Roussette anzeigen würde, und den man irrig als den sogenannten stellaris citirt.’

3. The name *Scyllium edwardsii* was attributed to Cuvier (1829) by Müller & Henle (1841), Günther (1870), Duméril (1865) and Regan (1908).

4. Garman (1913) placed the species in the genus *Haploblepharus* and recognised Voigt (1832) as author of the species. Bass (1986), Compagno (1984, 1988) and Eschmeyer (1998) have also attributed the species to Voigt (1832).

5. However, the first available name for the species is *Squalus edwardsii* Schinz, 1822. Because authors using the name *Haploblepharus edwardsii* have not attributed the name to Schinz (1822) it cannot be deemed to be a correct original spelling under Article 33.3.1 of the code.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the name *edwardsii* as published in the binomen *Squalus edwardsii* Schinz, 1822, is an incorrect original spelling of *edwardsii*;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *edwardsii* Schinz, 1822, as published in the binomen *Squalus edwardsii* [sic];
- (3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *edwardsii* Schinz, 1822, as published in the binomen *Squalus edwardsii* and ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect original spelling of *edwardsii*.

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- en met aanhaalingen van andere auteurs verrykt door M. Houttuyn, Medic. Doctor*, vol. 8. Pp. 1–56, pls. 51–100. Sepp, Amsterdam.
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